



RockvilleReports

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Mayor and Council to Hold Hearing and Vote on Water and Sewer Rates and Rate Structure

Community members can offer testimony on proposed rates for city water and sewer service, and a proposed new rate structure, during a public hearing Monday, Nov. 1.

The proposed rates and new rate structure are scheduled to be introduced on Monday, Nov. 8. A vote on the rates and rate structure is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 15. The Mayor and Council are scheduled to meet at 7 each night.

Find the proposed rate structure, which creates three customer classes based on the cost of water and sewer service, at www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/43148.

To testify at the public hearing, call 240-314-8280 by 10 a.m. Nov. 1, or submit testimony in writing to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov or Mayor and Council, City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.

The Mayor and Council on Oct. 4 directed city staff to use

\$1.2 million of the \$9.6 million the city received through the federal American Rescue Plan Act toward aiding customers in paying past-due utility bills. The aid will apply to bills issued by the city from March 2020-September 2021.

Water and sewer rates will remain the same through Fiscal Year 2022, which ends June 30, after the Mayor and Council also directed staff to apply nearly \$2.7 million in ARPA funds toward water infrastructure improvements. This will also help provide a weighted annual rate increase of just 2.1% for FY 2023 and FY 2024.

Video of the Oct. 4 discussion is available at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter, where staff reports will be posted with the agendas a few days before the November meetings.

Learn more about ongoing discussions of how to allocate ARPA funds in the article on page 3. ✚

City Manager Names Stacey Webster as Rockville's New Chief Financial Officer

Stacey Webster, the city's deputy chief financial officer and a longtime member of Rockville's finance department, will be the city's next chief financial officer/director of finance, City Manager Rob DiSpirito announced Oct. 19.

Webster, whose appointment becomes official Monday, Nov. 1, will oversee and direct all city financial operations with a focus on budget development and management, investment of city funds, long-range financial planning and forecasting, cost allocation, debt administration and maintenance of the city's triple-A credit rating, the city's retirement system, financial reporting, and all internal accounting and auditing functions. The CFO is also responsible for advising the city manager and the Mayor and Council on city property tax and utility rates, financial management policies, and financial relationships with city partners, nonprofits, and other governmental entities.

"I look forward to the opportunity to lead Rockville's outstanding Department of Finance, and to continue to provide sound and strategic financial advice to the executive team and to our Mayor and Council," Webster said.

As the city's deputy CFO,



Stacey Webster, chief financial officer

Webster led the planning, development, and financial management of Rockville's \$141 million operating budget and \$214 million capital improvements program. She also managed the investment of city cash and reserve funds, the sale of city bonds, and the adoption of utility and tax rates. Before serving as deputy CFO, she served as the city's budget manager. Before joining the City of Rockville in 2005, she worked for an asset management firm, providing portfolio management and investment advice to state and local governments.

"Stacey has assembled a very talented team that has won awards for the city's annual budget document and public reports like the Popular Annual Financial Report," DiSpirito said. "She has a well-earned reputation of professional accomplishments and creativity. Stacey works very well with her team, all city staff, the Mayor and Council, and the public. The Finance Department and this organization will continue to be in very capable hands with Stacey as director."

Webster earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Mercyhurst University and a Master of Public Administration

continued on pg. 7...

Veterans Day and Thanksgiving Weekend in Rockville

Several city facilities will be closed for Veterans Day, Thursday, Nov. 11, and on Thanksgiving weekend, and other city facilities will be closed or will operate on limited schedules.

Veterans Day, Thursday, Nov. 11: City government, the Rockville Senior Center, Glenview Mansion, the Rockville Civic Center business office, and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office will be closed. Theater tickets are always available at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre. Croydon Creek Nature Center will be open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. All other city facilities will open as usual. Recycling, trash and yard waste normally collected on Thursdays will be collected Friday, Nov. 12.

Thanksgiving, Thursday, Nov. 25: City government and most city facilities will be closed. Recycling, trash and yard waste normally collected on Thursdays will be collected Friday, Nov. 26. For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-trash or call 240-314-8568.

Facilities closed Nov. 25 and open for the following hours Nov. 26: Croydon Creek Nature Center (10 a.m.-2 p.m.); Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers (10 a.m.-6 p.m.); and the Rockville Swim and Fitness *continued on pg. 7...*

Lock It or Lose It!: Tips for Preventing Thefts from Vehicles

Thefts from vehicles continue to be on the rise in Rockville with the majority of cases due to cars being left unlocked.

In 2020, there were 278 reports of theft from vehicles around the city. Don't become a victim. Follow these tips to deter criminals and protect your property:

- Lock vehicle doors. Check to be sure you've closed the windows.
- Don't leave valuables in your vehicle. If you must leave valuables, make sure they are locked in the trunk. Don't leave them in plain sight.
- Don't leave your garage door opener in plain sight inside of your vehicle. Put it in the glove box, hide it or bring it with you.

- Park in well-lit areas whenever possible.
- Remember: briefcases, backpacks, gym bags, sunglasses, keys and small change are all tempting to a thief.
- If you see someone in your yard, driveway or lurking near vehicles, especially overnight and in the very early morning hours, do not attempt to confront or detain them. Immediately call 911.
- If your vehicle is broken into, immediately contact RCPD to make a report at 240-314-8900. Documenting every theft from a vehicle is an important step toward stopping crime.

Do your part to stop thefts from vehicles occurring in our city. *Remember: Lock it or lose it!* ✚

LOCK IT OR LOSE IT!

Thefts from vehicles are up. Most cases are due to vehicle doors being left unlocked. Deter criminals. Don't forget to lock your vehicle doors.

Report thefts: 240-314-8900
www.rockvillemd.gov/police

Puede encontrar esta información en su idioma. Visite RockvilleReports.com y abra el menú de «Seleccione Idioma» de Google Translate, situado en la esquina superior derecha de la página.

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MAYOR & COUNCIL
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City's Financial Assistance Program Can Help in an Emergency

Need financial help? Facing eviction? Utilities about to be shut off? Need help paying for prescription medication?

Emergency financial assistance is available to eligible Rockville residents facing a financial crisis through the Rockville Emergency Assistance Program.

Depending on eligibility, REAP assistance may also be available for funeral and medical expenses. Referrals for emergency food, clothing, financial/employment counseling and other assistance are also provided.

All applicants for financial assistance must have a court-issued notice of eviction or notice of pending disconnection, and must apply to the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Montgomery County DHHS will submit a referral to the City of Rockville Community Services Division on behalf of eligible city residents.

Through Dec. 31, past due city water and sewer bills are not being charged a late fee and the city is not shutting off water and sewer service for delinquent accounts.

Due to COVID-19, applications for financial assistance with water utility shutoffs are being processed by phone and email.

For more information on REAP, including how to apply, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/reap. To donate to the REAP program and help neighbors in need, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/donate. One-hundred percent of donated funds go to Rockville families.

Time for Reflection on Rockville's Elections

Charter Review Commission to Take Up Elections in Latest Look at City's Governing Document

About 70% of registered voters in Rockville did not vote in the city's 2019 election.

While the next City of Rockville election is not until 2023, the city's Charter Review Commission is asking Rockville residents to start thinking about how to increase voter turnout, update the city's election process and engage more communities.

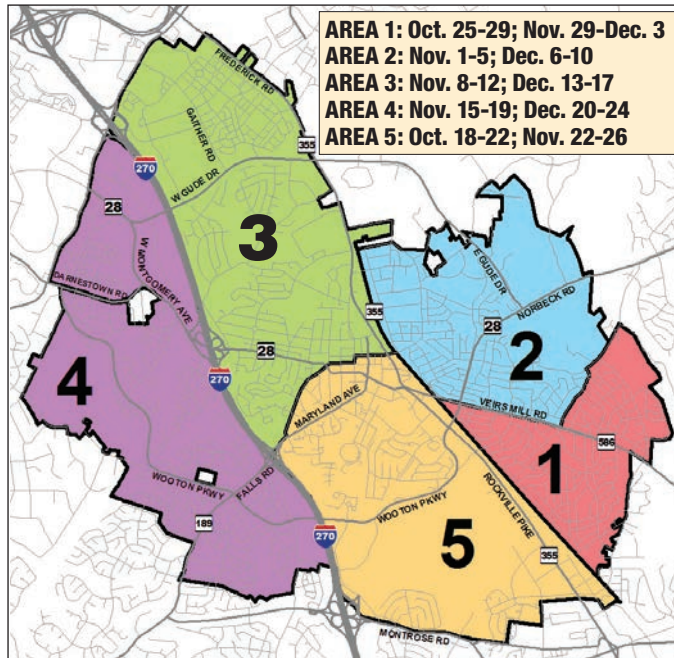
Watch "Rockville Reports" and other city media to learn how to offer ideas about city elections in the coming months as part of the commission's latest charter review. This is a unique opportunity to share your thoughts with the commission and help create meaningful change for the next decade.

The city's charter is an important governing document, like a constitution. It outlines how the city runs elections and provides community services, how residents can participate and engage with city government, and much more. Every 10 years or so, the Charter Review Commission looks at ways to update the charter so that it best serves all residents.

Find the charter at www.rockvillemd.gov/124/City-Code-Charter.

Learn more about the Charter Review Commission at www.rockvillemd.gov/102/Charter-Review-Commission.

The City of Rockville elects a mayor and four councilmembers in four-year cycles. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/election.



See interactive map at www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection.

Don't Stop, Be-Leave-in': Fall Leaf Collection Continues

The city will continue to vacuum leaves from neighborhood curbs, with the second of two rounds beginning Monday, Nov. 22.

An interactive map at www.rockvillemd.gov/leaf collection allows residents to input their address and learn when their leaves will be collected.

Rake leaves next to, but out of, roadways, gutters and bike lanes, and away from parked vehicles. Leaves should be raked by 6 a.m. on the first day of their collection period, but no earlier than one week before the collection dates to avoid grass damage or fire hazards. Remove sticks and

other objects from leaf piles. Avoid parking near leaf piles or other vehicles.

After the collection period ends, use biodegradable paper lawn bags or 32-gallon trash cans (without plastic garbage bags) to set leaves out on your recycling and trash collection day, or use alternative disposal methods such as mulching or composting. Do not dump leaves, grass clippings or other yard waste into storm drains, along stream banks or directly into streams, where they can cause blockages that contribute to localized flooding or release nutrients that lead to fish kills. +



CHAMPS AGAIN ... The city was recognized for a fourth time as a Sustainable Maryland community and earned the program's Sustainability Champion designation, at the Maryland Municipal League's fall conference on Oct. 12 in Ellicott City. Rockville amassed more points than any other community for efforts that include its 32nd consecutive year as a Tree City USA, its backyard chicken ordinance, piloting a Weed Warriors program to remove invasive plants, its bans on polystyrene and plastic straws, and the "Environment and Sustainability News" email newsletter. Pictured above (L to R) are Erica Shingara, the city's chief of environmental management, and Councilmember Monique Ashton.

Learn more about the city's efforts in the Sustainable Maryland Community Certification Report at bit.ly/SustainableMDRkv2021, at www.rockvillemd.gov/environment, and by subscribing to "Environment and Sustainability News" at www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters.

Meet a Rockville Employee: Bryan Barnett-Woods

Bryan Barnett-Woods is new to the Traffic and Transportation Division in the city's Department

of Public Works

as a principal

transportation

planner/pedestrian

and bicycle

coordinator. He

is also Rockville's

new Vision Zero

coordinator. He

joined the city on

Aug. 23. We asked

him a few questions to in-

troduce him the Rockville

community.

What's your role as the city's Vision Zero coordinator?

My role is to manage, coordinate and support the implementation of the city's Vision Zero Action Plan. This includes collaborating with the Mayor and Council, Rockville City Police Department, Department of Recreation and Parks, Maryland Department of Transportation, Montgomery County Public Schools and the county's Department of Transportation, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority WMATA, and the public to carry out the action plan to increase traffic safety and eliminate transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries in Rockville. This also includes assessing the progress made and evaluating opportunities to shift strategies to better meet the program's goals.

What should people know about Vision Zero?

Vision Zero is a data-driven and multifaceted program to increase transportation safety in the City of Rockville for everyone. That includes people driving, walking, rolling, bicycling and riding transit. The

ultimate goal is to eliminate all transportation-related deaths and serious injuries.

Through this program, we recognize that no one is perfect when traveling, and our transportation system and policies must ensure that these inevitable mis-

takes do not result in severe injury or death. To meet this goal, the city's Vision Zero Action Plan provides 30 different strategies that are categorized into four action areas: engineering, education, enforcement and policy. Within these action areas, we acknowledge the complex and multiple variables that impact traffic safety and work towards a system that equitably provides safe travel for all. The Department of Public Works provides the Mayor and Council with a quarterly progress report, which can be found along with the action plan at www.rockvillemd.gov/visionzero.

Anything else we should know?

If you're interested in walking or bicycling in Rockville, there are plenty of ways to get involved. The Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee (www.rockvillemd.gov/RBAC) and Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee (www.rockvillemd.gov/RPAC) have monthly meetings. We're also just getting started on the city's Pedestrian Master Plan, which will present a vision and policy framework to support walking throughout Rockville. We'll have more news about that in the coming months. +

SIGN UP

FOR THE CITY'S
 MANY NEWSLETTERS –
 subjects from environment to our
 newest volunteer news!

www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters



Rockville Rewards Cards
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Unlock more than discounts from Rockville-area businesses, from dining to events and services. Get one at rockvillerewards.com.

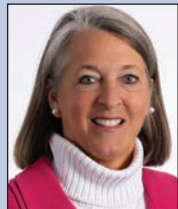
One-hundred percent of website sales proceeds are donated to nonprofits that call Rockville home. Show small businesses how much they mean to our community while supporting the nonprofits that support Rockville.



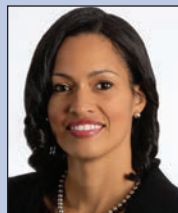
WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING THIS MONTH? ... November is Municipal Government Works Month. It's also National Native American Heritage Month, National Novel Writing Month, Military Family Appreciation Month, Alzheimer's Disease Month and Gratitude Month (so thanks for being a "Rockville Reports" reader!).

Mayor & Council

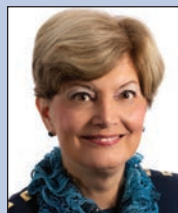
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Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton
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Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg
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Councilmember David Myles
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Councilmember Mark Pierzchala
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mpierzchala@rockvillemd.gov

VIRTUAL MEETINGS ARE BEING HELD ONLINE. Meetings are closed to in-person attendance and are livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11.

Meetings Schedule: Mondays, Nov. 1, 8, 15, and 22 at 7 p.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details.

The Nov. 8 meeting will be preceded by a drop-in session by telephone with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton and Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg from 5:30-6:30 p.m. To participate, sign up by 10 a.m. the day of the drop-in at www.rockvillemd.gov/FormCenter/City-Clerk-11/Sign-up-for-Drop-in-Meetings-227.

If you wish to submit comments in writing for community forum or public hearings, please email mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov by 10 a.m. on the day of. Share comments live during community forum. Sign up by calling the City Clerk/Director of Council Operations at 240-314-8280 by 10 a.m. the day of the meeting. All comments will be acknowledged by the Mayor and Council at the meeting and added to the agenda for public viewing on the website. To practice responsible social distancing, Mayor and Council meetings will be conducted by teleconference and broadcast on Rockville 11, channel 11 on county cable, livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11, and available a day after each meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

Rockville's Outdoor Dining to Remain 'Indefinitely'

Road closures in Rockville that allow outdoor dining on Gibbs Street and East Montgomery Avenue will remain in place indefinitely, Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton told the community at the Monday, Oct. 4 Mayor and Council meeting.

The decision, made by City Manager Rob DiSpirito, comes after September's virtual meetings to gauge public sentiment toward retaining Rockville's "streeteries." A partial closure of East Montgomery Avenue allows for eastbound traffic, a pickup/drop-off lane along the south

curb, and an outdoor dining tent for World of Beer along the north curb. Gibbs is closed entirely.

"We are going to leave them as is ..." Newton said at the Mayor and Council meeting. "So just for those of you who are looking for that, we have done what you requested, we heard you loud and clear in the three town hall meetings, so thank you for your participation."

Feedback from the public meetings, as well as door-to-door and phone conversations, and an online survey, indicated broad and strong support for continu-

ing the closures. In addition, free, 15-minute on-street parking for curbside pickup will continue in designated spaces in Town Center.

In June 2020, the city closed Gibbs Street, between East Middle Lane and Beall Avenue, and East Montgomery Avenue, between Maryland Avenue and Helen Heneghan Way, to allow for expanded outdoor dining areas. The city also created a permit to allow local eateries to temporarily create or expand outdoor dining spaces on private property and within the city's rights of way, and designated curbside pickup and 15-minute free parking spaces throughout Town Center. East Montgomery was partially reopened in May. ✚

Mayor and Council to Continue Discussion of American Rescue Plan Act Funds

The Mayor and Council continue discussions this month about how to spend \$9.6 million in aid Rockville received through the federal American Rescue Plan Act.

ARPA's goal is to aid state and local governments in recovering from the budgetary, economic, and financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Staff will present eligible spending categories and discuss potential ideas during the Mayor and Council meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 15. An additional Mayor and Council discussion of ARPA funds is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 13.

A public hearing on how to allocate the funds was held Oct. 25, after the deadline for this issue of "Rockville Reports." Find video of the discussion and the hearing at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

On Oct. 4, the Mayor and Council directed staff to apply nearly \$3.9 million of the city's

ARPA funding toward water infrastructure improvements and assisting city water and sewer customers in paying past-due utility bills incurred during the pandemic. Read more about that decision in the article on this page.

Taken in the context of Mayor and Council discussions of the city budget for Fiscal Year 2023, which begins July 1, the ARPA funding is eligible for broad categories of uses. That includes replacing city revenue spent on government services; premium pay for essential workers; public health costs for COVID-19 mitigation efforts; assistance to businesses and households; and infrastructure investment in water, sewer, and broadband.

Specific uses the Mayor and Council may consider, but are not limited to, include rental assistance and affordable housing; human services and caregiver grants; flood mitigation planning and assistance; an audit and tran-

BUDGET PROCESS CALENDAR

- **Monday, Nov. 15:** Discussion of the use of ARPA funds.
- **Monday, Dec. 13:** Discussions of Mayor and Council survey results, priority setting and the use of ARPA funds.
- Additional public hearings and work sessions will be held in 2022. The Mayor and Council are scheduled to adopt the budget in May.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget or call the Finance Department at 240-314-8400.

sition plan for Americans with Disabilities Act-related improvements; RedGate Park design; the Rockville Town Center road diet; and improvements to the water treatment plant, Lincoln Park Community Center, the King Farm Farmstead, and the Stonestreet Corridor.

The \$141.2 million budget for Fiscal Year 2022, which began July 1, keeps the city's real property tax rate of \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed valuation the same. All residential and commercial property owners pay this tax. ✚

Mayor and Council to Review Rockville's Climate Action Plan in November

The Mayor and Council are scheduled to review Rockville's first draft Climate Action Plan during their meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 15.

The discussion is now on an earlier agenda than previously scheduled. Find a staff report and the plan with the Nov. 15 Mayor and Council agenda when it is posted at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

Share comments during the meeting's community forum by

calling 240-314-8280 by 10 a.m. the day of the meeting, by email at mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov or by mail to Mayor and Council, City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. Public comments will be accepted through early December at www.rockvillemd.gov/climate, where the draft plan is available for review.

With the Climate Action Plan, city government is working with community members to develop a comprehensive list of actions to

equitably reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and build community resiliency.

Over the past year, the city's Environmental Management Division held virtual public meetings and online office hours and conducted surveys to solicit community input on the plan. A virtual open house was held in the summer to get feedback from the community on the draft plan goals, greenhouse gas reduction pathway and a draft list of 41 actions. The city received robust feedback from more than 575 respondents. Find full results of the community feedback at www.rockvillemd.gov/climate. ✚

Get Involved with the City

- **Send an email** to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov.
- **Testify at a hearing** or in writing to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov or by mail to the Mayor and Council, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- **Volunteer** to be on a board or commission. Find ways to give of your time and talents at www.rockvillemd.gov/volunteer.

Boards and Commissions

Anyone interested in serving on a board or commission may write to: Mayor and Council, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, call 240-314-8280, or fill out and submit an expression of interest form at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions.

While some meetings are canceled, other boards and commissions meetings will take place virtually. See times and dates, and ways to participate on city's online calendar: www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.aspx.

• **Nov. 10 Planning Commission** 7 p.m. (Meetings will be held by teleconference. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details closer to the meeting dates.)

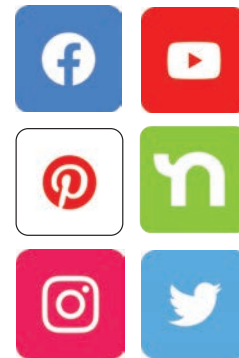
Vacancies

The Mayor and Council are seeking applicants for the following boards and commissions:

- Community Policing Advisory Board (1 member, 1 alt., 1 youth)
- Compensation Commission (1)
- Cultural Arts Commission (1)
- Ethics Commission (1)
- Historic District Comm. (2)
- Human Rights Comm. (1)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs Commission (1 landlord alt.)
- Personnel Appeals Board (3)
- Planning Commission (2)
- Rockville Housing Enterprises (1)
- Rockville Swim and Fitness Ctr. Advisory Committee (1 youth)

For more, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions or call 240-314-8280.

Connect with us on Social Media.



► SPEAK UP ◀

Report potential fraud, waste and abuse related to City of Rockville government services and employees.

Call 1-866-921-6714

Email rockvillemd@integritycounts.ca
Visit www.integritycounts.ca/org/rockvillemd
For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/fraud-waste-abuse.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS: Main: 240-314-5000

Police Non-emergency: 240-314-8900

24-Hour Utility Emergency Report Hotline: 240-314-8567



STAY INFORMED: The Mayor and Council meeting schedule and agendas can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil. Staff reports with background information are included with the agendas, which are posted several days before each meeting.

Save the Date for Montgomery County's H2O Summit

Montgomery County's H2O Summit will be held virtually on Wednesday, Nov. 10 via Zoom.

The free annual celebration of water and our actions to keep it clean will feature educational sessions to provide community members with ways to make water-conscious decisions and tools to use in their backyards to help our local streams. Learn about efforts to improve the county's watersheds, environmental volunteerism and opportunities for community members to get involved.

Due to space limitations, registration is requested. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/education/events.html. For more information, email ryan.zerbe@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Don't Let a Clog Become an Unwanted Holiday Guest

When the holiday feast is finished, don't pour fats, oils and grease, i.e., FOG, down the drain.

FOG, including sauces, gravy and salad dressings, can trap solids, form hard deposits and clog pipes, causing basement backups, sewer overflows and costly damage to city infrastructure and private property.

Before washing dishes, scrape food and grease into a trash can, use a paper towel to wipe away oil, or pour FOG into an empty can, let it cool to solidify and dispose of it.

RHE Opens Wait List for Public Housing Program

Four-Bedroom Units Available

Rockville Housing Enterprises will open its public housing program wait list in December for its four-bedroom units only.

Applicants can sign up online-only for the wait list, which will be available from 9 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15 until 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, at myportal.rockvillehe.org.

Applicants will be required to provide contact information, including an email address for the application process, and details about income sources and household members.

For more information about the wait list, email ptardy@rockvillehe.org or leave a message with questions by calling 301-424-6265. For more information about RHE, visit www.rockvillehe.org.

This America Recycles Day, Recycle the Rockville Way

America Recycles Day is Monday, Nov. 15.

The 25th annual day of awareness, sponsored by Keep America Beautiful, encourages community members to visit america-recyclesday.org and take the #BeRecycled pledge to commit to recycling. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments is sponsoring its own pledge challenge, featuring prizes. Visit bit.ly/MWCOGRecycles.

The national recycling rate has increased from less than 7% in 1960 to 32% today, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Rockville's recycling rate is 42%.

At the 2020 America Recycles Summit, the EPA announced a first-ever national recycling goal of 50% by 2030.

Find a list of common items Rockville recycles at www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-trash.

Rockville also recycles air conditioners, water heaters, refrigerators (with doors removed), grills, lawn mowers and more. For a complete list, select "Electronics & Metal" from the sidebar of the recycling webpage. Other special collection items include:

Bulk refuse, for which Rockville provides six special collections per household per calendar year of items such as wooden furniture, fencing, landscape ties and construc-

tion debris.

Electronics, such as televisions, computers, printers, small electronics, cords and cables.

The city will not accept materials for recycling that are in plastic bags or that contain plastic bags. Many grocery or retail stores offer plastic bag collection bins near their entrances. Find a drop-off location at bit.ly/howtorecyclebags.

Call 240-314-8568 or email refuse@rockvillemd.gov to schedule a special collection, start service, get a larger recycling cart, report a missed collection, verify collection schedules or ask a question.

Be Cart Smart

When setting carts out for recycling and trash collection, remember to place carts in the street along the curb in front of your property. Along busy streets, where carts in the street could pose a hazard, place carts adjacent to, but not in, the street, such as in the grass buffer between the sidewalk and street or, in locations where there is no buffer, behind the sidewalk. In all cases, carts should not be placed in the sidewalk because it impedes the path of pedestrians and can be particularly hazardous for those who use a wheelchair and cannot navigate around or move the carts. ❖

Flooding: Risks, Reimbursement and Resources

Rockville experienced devastating flooding from the remnants of Hurricane Ida, which blew through the city as a tropical depression on Sept. 1. Now, the city is reminding residents how to protect their property and how the city could help with the costs of recent flood damage.

Forecasters predict that these extreme weather events will happen more frequently as the climate continues to change.

Standard homeowners insurance does not usually cover flood damage. All homeowners, even those with homes outside of a flood-prone area, should consider purchasing flood insurance. For more information, visit fema.gov/flood-insurance.

Residents may be eligible for a reimbursement from the city of up to \$2,500 toward the costs of repairing property damage caused by Ida. To be eligible, the property must be

within the City of Rockville corporate limits. Claims must be for the documented costs of repairs and cleanup immediately following the storm such as dewatering, pump-out, or dry-out efforts, and removal and disposal of damaged property and building materials. Claims must be submitted by Monday, Jan. 3.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/flooding for more information about reimbursement claims and for resources to help residents better understand flooding risks and prepare for flash flooding events.

The webpage also includes a damage assessment survey that residents can fill out and submit to help Rockville gather information about flooding and flood damage from Ida. The survey will feed information directly to a flood mitigation planning tool and will inform the city's evaluation of future flood mitigation options. ❖

Dangers of Less Daylight: Tips for Driving, Biking and Walking

The end of daylight saving time on Sunday, Nov. 7, and the coming winter, mean less daylight and a reminder to use caution while driving, biking and walking on city streets.

A 2017 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration study found that three-quarters of all pedestrian fatalities occurred in the dark. A 2018 study by AAA Mid-Atlantic found that crashes in the Washington metropolitan area involving pedestrians on roads and walking paths peaked in October (284), November (292) and December (288).

AAA provides the following safety tips for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians.

Tips for Drivers:

- Slow down.
- Turn on headlights for increased visibility during early morning and evening hours.
- Keep vehicle headlights and windows (inside and out) clean.
- Do not use high beams when other cars or pedes-

trians are around.

- Yield the right of way to pedestrians in crosswalks. Do not pass vehicles stopped at crosswalks.

Tips for Pedestrians and Bicyclists:

- Cross only at intersections. Look left, right and left again and only cross when it is clear.
- Cross at the corner – not in the middle of the street or between parked cars.
- If you must walk on a road that does not have sidewalks, walk facing traffic.
- Evaluate the distance and speed of oncoming traffic before you step into the street.
- Avoid listening to music or listen at a low volume so you can hear motor vehicles approaching.
- Bicycle lights are a must-have item for safe night riding, especially during the winter months when it gets dark earlier.

Find more pedestrian safety tips at bit.ly/BeStreetWise. ❖



Pet Waste Belongs in the Trash – Protect Our Parks, Streams and Neighborhoods

Pet waste belongs in the trash, not on the ground. Pet waste contains twice as many bacteria per gram as human waste. In your yard, in our parks, in the dog park – wherever you are, pick up the poop and put it in the trash. Follow these tips to prevent pet waste from contaminating our streams:

Carry disposable bags and pick up after your pet, even on trails and in the woods. If you hire a dog walker to walk your dog, make sure they pick up after your pet when on their walk.

Properly dispose of pet waste by bagging the waste and depositing it a trash can or pet waste receptacle.

Do not throw bagged pet waste into storm drains or the woods, and do not leave it on the ground.

Be sure to **pick up pet waste on your own property** too. Anything washed away by the rain will end up in our streams.

Reuse bags that would have ended up in the trash to pick up after your pet. Ask co-workers, neighbors and friends to collect plastic bags used for bread, newspapers, bagels or produce. Not only will you be reusing bags, but you will save money by not having to buy pet waste bags or pay the 5-cent fee for bags at grocery stores. ❖



HELP US LIGHT THE WAY ... With the days getting shorter, have you noticed a streetlight that's getting dimmer – or is out completely? Learn how to report it at RockvilleReports.com/problematic-streetlight-heres-how-to-report-it or just select "Report a concern" at the bottom of www.rockvillemd.gov.

Hotline, Website Offer a Way to Report Potential Fraud, Waste and Abuse

Rockville offers a telephone hotline and website for community members to report potential fraud, waste and abuse related to city government services and employees.

The hotline and website allow community members to make anonymous reports. The service, provided through WhistleBlower Security, a contractor independent of the city, promotes transparency and provides an opportunity for the city to be made aware of potential problems.

Community members may report potential fraud, waste and abuse by call-

ing 866-921-6714, via email at rockvillemd@integritycounts.ca or by filing an online report. Examples include violations of rules or regulations, gross waste of funds or theft of city resources.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/fraud-waste-abuse.

A similar system is already in place for reports by City of Rockville employees. Alexandria, Virginia; Baltimore; Bowie; and Gaithersburg also have lines for their employees and the public to report potential fraud, waste and abuse. ✚

Volunteer to Shovel Snow for an Elderly Neighbor

City Pairs Helpers with Seniors

Each winter, the Rockville Senior Center looks for ways to help older Rockville residents with snow removal. If you're handy with a shovel and don't mind digging out an extra driveway or clearing a walkway or two, you can sign up and volunteer for the program.

The senior center's home maintenance coordinator organizes the program and can connect you with neighbors in need near your home. What better way to celebrate the season of selfless giving?

To sign up to volunteer or to request snow-shovel-

ing assistance, email Jerry Jones at jjones@rockvillemd.gov, call Jones at 240-314-8819 or call the Senior Center Support Services office at 240-314-8810. To sign up for assistance or volunteer online, visit bit.ly/snowshovelvolunteer.

For more information about Rockville Senior Services, call 240-314-8800 or email seniorcenter@rockvillemd.gov.

When winter weather strikes, turn to the city's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/winterweather for information about the Rockville's snow removal policies. ✚

'Volunteer Rockville' Debuts with Good News to Peruse About Help We Could Use

Looking to lend your time, talents and expertise to the City of Rockville? Look no further than "Volunteer Rockville," a new email newsletter presenting volunteering news and opportunities to serve your city.

The monthly newsletter delivers to your inbox news about nonprofits, city and community programs seeking volunteers, Student Service Learning credit opportunities, and profiles of volunteers and organizations serving as agents of change in our community.

To sign up to receive the newsletter in your inbox, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters and select "Volunteering."

To read the first issue, visit bit.ly/VolNewsOct21.

Thankful for Local Flavor at the Rockville Farmers Market

Bring local farm-fresh fall flavor to your Thanksgiving dinner table with produce from regional growers/producers at the Rockville Farmers Market.

Fall offerings include apples, cider, gourds, potatoes and pumpkins. The market also features plants and flowers, herbs, baked goods, spirits, knife sharpening, meat, and coffee. It is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, through Nov. 20 in the jury parking lot at the corner of East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets in Rockville Town Center.

Customers' dollars can go further this holiday. The Eat Fresh Rockville and Maryland Market Money program double its dollar-for-dollar match, up to \$40 weekly, when customers shop with SNAP/EBT (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program/Electronic Benefits Transfer), P-EBT (Pandemic EBT) and WIC-FVC (Women, Infants and Children-Fruit and Vegetable Checks). For more information, stop by the tent at the market entrance, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/farmers or call 240-314-8620. Email specialevents@rockvillemd.gov for information about how to contribute to the Maryland Market Money program.

A special winter market will be held on two Saturdays, Dec. 11 and Jan. 8, from 9 a.m.-noon. Find more details in December's "Rockville Reports" and follow the market on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RockvilleFarmersMarket.



Health and Wellness, Coming Up at the Senior Center

Stay home and stay healthy with free on-line seminars from the Rockville Senior Center in November.

Register with the course number online at www.rockvillemd.gov/ registration. Learn more about 60-plus programs, courses, activities and services at www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter or by calling 240-314-8800. Sessions are free, virtual, and run from 1-2 p.m., except where noted.

Stress Reduction/ Meditation

Focus, relax and come to a more peaceful sense of being, with time for both meditation and discussion. Presented by Betty Figliure. Course #20133 for a mini-session; Mondays, Nov. 29-Dec. 20. Cost: \$15



members; \$25 nonmembers.

The Benefits of Being Kind

World Kindness Day has been observed on Nov. 13 since 1998. Adventist HealthCare will teach the practice of being kind, examine the science, and the possible health impacts it has on us. Course #20134. Tuesday, Nov. 9.

Diabetes Toolbox

Healthy eating, exercise, stress management, monitoring, avoiding complications and understanding emotions. Presented by Adventist HealthCare. Course #20135. Thursday,

Nov. 4.

Your Heart, Your Life Series, Session 2: Act in Time, Heart Attack Signs

Learn what a heart attack is, warning signs, the benefits of early intervention and how to plan ahead. Presented by Adventist HealthCare. Course #20137. Tuesday, Nov. 16.

The Most Common Winter Injuries

Dr. Carlos Martinez, owner of CAM Physical therapy, will discuss winter's most common injuries. Course #20127. Wednesday,

Nov. 17.

Managing Your Hearing

Topics include the basics of hearing, hearing testing and information about hearing aid technology to improve your hearing and quality of life. Presented by Dr. Branna Collins and Dr. Alanna Schloss, Live Better Hearing. Course #20130. Wednesday, Nov. 10.

Exercise – A Powerful Medicine

Exercise physiologist Jeanmarie Gallagher from Suburban Hospital's Cardiac Rehabilitation Department will share strategies to become and stay active, regardless of physical limitations. Course #20638. Thursday, Nov. 18. ✚



HISTORY MADE ... Rockville elected officials joined Peerless Rockville and community members on Oct. 1 to celebrate the designation of the former home of pioneering psychiatrist Frieda Fromm-Reichmann as Rockville's first National Historic Landmark. Learn more about Frieda's Cottage at RockvilleReports.com/history-made-friedas-cottage-designated-historic-landmark. Find more photos from the dedication ceremony on the City of Rockville and Peerless Rockville Facebook pages. Search "Frieda."



KEEPING UP WITH METRO CONSTRUCTION ... Visit wmata.com/RockvilleCanopy to sign up for updates on the going canopy reconstruction and repairs projects Metro's Shady Grove and Rockville stations. Parking at the two stations is free while they are closed for canopy reconstruction and repairs. Free shuttle buses connecting Shady Grove, Rockville and Twinbrook stations will continue through Saturday, Dec. 4, when they are expected to reopen.

Baltimore Road Closure and Detour to Remain Through November

Baltimore Road will remain closed between Gladstone and Broadwood drives for an estimated additional month, through approximately the end of November, as construction continues to improve safety and access along the road.

The road will remain closed due to supply-chain issues and weather-related delays. Supply-chain issues have delayed the availability of concrete pipe for the new storm drain. Heavy rainfall, including from the remnants of Hurricane Ida in September, presented challenges for workers replacing the culvert under Baltimore Road at the stream crossing near Rockville Cemetery, installing storm drain and restoring the stream.

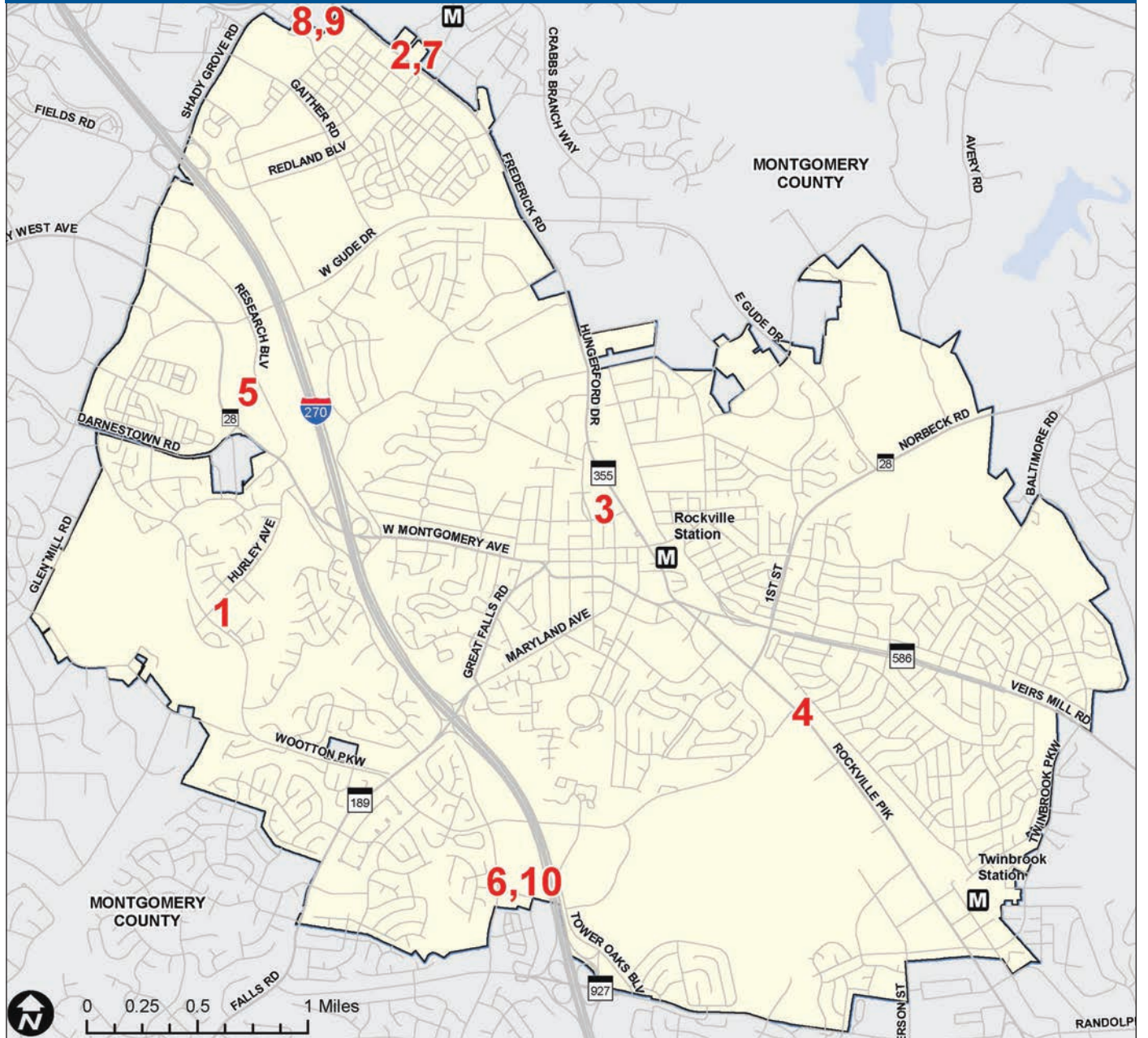
Before the road can reopen, the contractor will complete the culvert replacement, curb and gutter installation, and base course paving of the roadway. Crews will also continue to relocate the water lines and install storm drain connections to the stream in both directions.

Signs will remain in place directing motorists and pedestrians to detours between Gladstone and Broadwood drives. Vehicles should use MD 28 or follow detour signs to Veirs Mill Road to get around the work area via Broadwood Drive east of the closure or Edmonston Drive to the west. Pedestrians should follow pedestrian detour signs on streets south of Baltimore Road.

Work is progressing well on the overall project. Storm drain, curb and gutter, and sidewalk are being installed in the segment of Baltimore Road between MD 28 and Woodburn Drive. Roadway resurfacing will be one of the final steps of the project, which is still expected to be completed in spring 2022.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/baltimoreroadproject.

Major Development Review Applications



Projects in the Pipeline

View the latest map at www.rockvillemd.gov/developmentwatch

Recent Pre-Application Submittals

The following projects are under pre-application review:

- 2401 Wootton Parkway (Rockshire Village):** Preapplication submittal for a proposed 112-unit townhouse development. Case PAM2022-00132.
- 15931 Frederick Road (Lidl and The Henson at Shady Grove Metro):** Preapplication submittal for a proposed 30,000-square-foot grocery store (Lidl) and a 200-unit multifamily building with associated parking and site improvements. Case PAM2021-00131.

Applications Under Review

The following applications are in the development review process:

- 460 Hungerford Drive:** A Level 2 site plan application for a proposed Chase Bank with a drive-thru and a sectional map amendment application to change the property's zoning from mixed-use corridor district to MXCD-HD (Historic District). Cases STP2021-00414 and MAP2021-00122 respectively.
- 900 Rockville Pike:** Project plan amendment for a proposed 6,000-square-foot retail center with approximately 9000 square feet of office use. Case PJT2018-00010.
- 1800 Research Blvd.:** Project plan amendment to the planned development for Falls Grove to allow development of a five-story, 300-unit multifamily residential building, where office was previously approved. Case PJT2020-00012.
- 11511 Fortune Terrace (Potomac Woods):** Preliminary

plan of subdivision to create 103 lots and several parcels for a mixed-use development consisting of townhouses, multifamily residential, senior housing and retention of an existing fitness facility. Case PLT2021-00591.

- 15931 Frederick Road (Lidl and The Henson at Shady Grove Metro):** Level 2 site plan application for a proposed 30,000-square-foot grocery store (Lidl) and a 200-unit multifamily building with associated parking and site improvements. Case STP2022-00434.
- 16200 Frederick Road (King Buick redevelopment):** A project plan application and Level 2 site plan application for a proposed residential development consisting of 252 townhomes, 118 stacked condominium townhomes and a 2,000-square-foot community building. Cases PJT2021-00013 and STP2022-00433.

Recently Approved Applications

The following applications were recently approved and are currently, or soon to be, under construction:

- 16200 Frederick Road (annexation for King Buick Redevelopment):** Annexation application for a 521,154-square-foot tract. Case ANX2020-00146.
- 11511 Fortune Terrace (Potomac Woods):** Site plan application submittal for a mixed-use development consisting of townhomes, multifamily residential, senior housing and retention of an existing fitness facility. Case STP2020-00399.

How do *you* imagine RedGate Park's future?

Rockville's Mayor and Council are unanimous.
RedGate's 131-acres will remain a park.

Help envision — and design — RedGate's future.



Know anyone 60+ who needs our help?

We're here as a helping hand for your older neighbors, friends or relatives.

- ✓ Food & Financial Assistance
- ✓ Counseling & Outreach
- ✓ Support
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Connecting with Peers
- ✓ Grocery Shopping

**CONNECT THEM
WITH US!**

- ✓ Home Maintenance
- ✓ Health, Wellness, Technology & Education
- ✓ Medical Equipment Loans



Call 240-314-8800.
Email SeniorCenter@rockvillemd.gov.
Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/397/Services.



MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel, (youtube.com/cityofrockville): The ribbon is cut on the new Rock East District; meet Rockville's new Deputy City Manager Angela Judge; and the city's first national historic landmark, the Frieda Fromm-Reichmann Cottage.

November CALENDAR

FACILITIES LEGEND:

- CC** Croydon Creek Nature Ctr., 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
- GM** Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
- FSF** F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8690.
- LP** Lincoln Park Community Ctr., 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780.
- CH** Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., 240-314-5000.
- SR** Rockville Senior Ctr., 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.
- SFC** Rockville Swim and Fitness Ctr., 355 Martins Lane, 240-314-8750.
- TF** Thomas Farm Community Ctr., 700 Falls Grove Dr., 240-314-8840.
- TC** Twinbrook Comm. Rec. Ctr., 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.

- V** Virtual Program/Offering
- F** Facebook Live Event



1,15 **MEMORY CAFÉ** Meets every Monday. New participants must contact representative Sheila Griffith at 240-844-3608 or sagriffith@alz.org prior to attending. Noon-1:30 p.m. **SR**

1,7,8 **MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING** 7 p.m. Drop-in meeting with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton and Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg, 5:30 p.m.

2,16 **DECLUTTERING** Learn about getting rid of things no longer needed. Meets first and third Tuesday of each month. Course #19990 to register. 10-11:30 a.m. **SR**

3 **OUTDOOR NATURE CLUB: ACORNS** Form a nature exploration pod and spend the hour outdoors investigating and learning about nature with experienced naturalists. Dress for the weather and wear a mask. Meets every other week for four sessions. Meets every other week for four sessions. Ages 6-8. 4-5 p.m. **CC**

4 **DIABETES TOOLBOX** Healthy eating, exercise, stress management, monitoring, avoiding complications and understanding emotions. Presented by Adventist Healthcare. Course #20135. See article on page 5. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

4,18 **POSITIVE AGING PROGRAM: WOMEN LIVING ALONE** A support group where members support each other by listening, expressing concern, and offering tips, suggestions and advice. Call 240-314-8800 to register. Join virtually or by phone. Free. 1-2:30 p.m. **SR**

5,12,19,26 **POSITIVE AGING PROGRAM: MANAGING STRESS DURING AND AFTER THE PANDEMIC** An ongoing support and educational group to help cope. Learn coping skills from a facilitator and each other. Join virtually or by phone. Meets every Friday. Free. 11 a.m.-noon. **SR**

5,6,7 **"ON THE TOWN," PRESENTED BY ROCKVILLE MUSICAL THEATRE** See article on page 8. **FSF**

6,13,20 **ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET** See article on page 5. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets.

7 **46TH ANNUAL ROCKVILLE 10K/5K** The oldest continuing foot race in Montgomery County. For more information see article on page 8 or visit www.rockville10k5k.com.

8 **ROCKVILLE SISTER CITIES CELEBRATION** Rockville and Pinneberg, Germany, celebrate their 64th sister city anniversary and recognize the 30th anniversary of "On Site," a joint Rockville/Pinneberg Art in Public Places sculpture. 2 p.m. Welsh Park (corner of Martins Lane and Mannakee Street).

9 **THE BENEFITS OF BEING KIND** See article on page 5. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

10 **MANAGING YOUR HEARING** See article on page 5. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

11 **VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY** City government will be closed. See article on page 1.

11 **VETERANS DAY CEREMONY** Rockville's annual ceremony in honor of men and women who served in the nation's armed forces. See article on page 8. 11 a.m.- noon. Veterans Park, MD 28 and Rockville Pike.

11 **"FORGING FREEDOM: ENDURANCE, ESCAPE, AND ROCKVILLE'S UNDERGROUND RAILROAD."** Presented by the Peerless Rockville and Glenview Mansion Speaker Series. See article on page 8. 7 p.m. **GM**

13 **LITTLE EXPLORERS** Go on hiking adventures with our naturalists, play games and discover the fun that can be had outdoors. Please note that the program at 11 a.m. is a repeat of the program that begins at 9:30 a.m. Ages 2-5. 9:30-10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.-noon. **CC**

14 **FAMILIES OUTSIDE: FOREST HIKE** Explore the habitats of the John Hayes Forest Preserve with naturalist-led nature outings and enjoy the wonders surrounding the nature center. Adults and children must register and all children must be accompanied by an adult. 2-3 p.m. **CC**

15 **MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORK SESSION** 7 p.m.

16 **YOUR HEART, YOUR LIFE SERIES, SESSION 2: ACT IN TIME, HEART ATTACK SIGNS** See the article on page 5. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

17 **THE MOST COMMON WINTER INJURIES** See the article on page 5. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

18 **EXERCISE — A POWERFUL MEDICINE** See the article on page 5. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

20 **"WINTER DREAMS," PRESENTED BY THE WASHINGTON BALALAIKA SOCIETY** See article on page 8. 8 p.m. **FSF**

25,26 **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY** City government will be closed. See article on page 1.

30 **SETTING RELATIONSHIP BOUNDARIES** Tips on how to set limits for what you will and won't tolerate from others, based on the book, "Setting Boundaries Will Set You Free," by Nance Levin. Course #19993. 10-11:30 a.m. **SR**

R = Residents • NR = Nonresidents • MEM = Member • NM = Nonmember

FOR MORE INFO AND UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTINGS: WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV/CALENDAR.ASPX

COVID-19:

City of Rockville Requires Mandatory Vaccinations, or Weekly Testing, for Employees

Employees of the City of Rockville will be required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by Monday, Nov. 15, unless exempt for religious or medical reasons, under a new policy adopted by the Mayor and Council.

COVID-19, including the highly contagious delta variant, continues to pose a serious health risk, especially to individuals who are not fully vaccinated, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Maryland Department of Health, and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent transmission and the severity of COVID-19 hospitalizations and

deaths.

Employees with approved exemptions will be required to undergo mandatory weekly COVID-19 testing. The policy covers temporary, part- and full-time employees who work onsite and remotely.

All new hires must receive at least the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine before starting work and complete any additional required doses, in the timeframes established by the CDC, to be considered fully vaccinated.

The employee vaccine mandate comes among several recent actions taken by the city to curb transmission of COVID-19 and protect the community against the spread of the highly

contagious delta variant, such as canceling October's Rocktoberfest and Antique and Classic Car Show; reinstating mandatory face-covering requirements for all employees and visitors, aged 2 and older, to Rockville facilities; and continuing to conduct Mayor and Council and boards and commissions meetings remotely.

Information about testing and vaccinations can be found on Montgomery County's COVID-19 Information portal at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19.

To learn more about how to get a vaccination, go to www.GoVaxMoco.com. ✚

November City Closures

continued from pg. 1...

Center (6 a.m.-9 p.m.). Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter for swim and fitness center lap swim and program schedules.

City government will also be closed Friday, Nov. 26.

Parking will be free at city-owned meters on Nov. 11, 25 and 26.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-5000.

Actions to slow the spread of COVID-19 may mean uncertainty for activities, programs and facility hours in the City of Rockville. Please check our online resources to see if any information contained in this edition of "Rockville Reports" has changed. ✚

Chief Financial Officer

continued from pg. 1...

from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. She is a member of the Maryland chapter and national Government Finance Officers Association, and is a certified public finance officer.

She succeeds Gavin Cohen, who resigned in October. ✚

Glenview-Peerless Speaker Series to Highlight Rockville's Underground Railroad

The Glenview Mansion and Peerless Rockville Speaker Series hosts a virtual event in honor of Maryland Emancipation Day at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 11.

"Forging Freedom: Endurance, Escape, and Rockville's Underground Railroad," will highlight the brave fugitives who fled slavery in Rockville, the abolitionist network that helped, and the endurance of the enslaved community.

Visit www.peerlessrockville.org for more information and to register to receive the link for this Zoom event.

Ready to Run: Rockville 10K/5K is Nov. 7

Running shoes laced up and ready to go?

The 46th annual Rockville 10K/5K, the oldest continuing foot race in Montgomery County, will take place the morning of Sunday, Nov. 7 in King Farm.

The 10K starts at 8:15 a.m. and the 5K at 8:30 a.m. Runners should arrive before 8 a.m., at which time streets leading to the race will be closed to ensure a prompt start.

Registration costs \$35 online or by mail-in through Friday, Nov. 5, and \$45 for in-person or online registration after that.

Saturday packet pickup on Nov. 6 is from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at RnJ Sports, 11910-R Parklawn Drive. Day-of race packet pickup opens at 7:30 a.m. at King Farm Village Center, 801 Pleasant Drive, between the Fontina Grille and Baja Fresh restaurants.

The course begins and ends in King Farm and travels a scenic route along Redland Boulevard (west of Grand Champion Drive), Gaither Road, Piccard Drive and West Gude Drive.

For more information, a course map and to register, visit www.rockville10k5k.com or follow @rockville10k5k on Facebook.

Winter and Senior Recreation Guides Will Be Available in Early December

Coming soon: Rockville's latest 2021-2022 winter guide, "LIFE in Rockville," which lists all the programs, events, classes and fun available from the city's Recreation and Parks Department.

Rockville has something for you and your kids to take part in, whether it's preschool programs, sports, arts, dance or getting fit.

Also look for "Adults 60+," the Rockville Senior Center's guide to classes, programs and events for those aged 60 and older.

The guides will be available in print and online by early December.

Registration begins 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30 for programs offered in the "Adults 60+" guide, and 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 2 for programs offered in the "Life in Rockville" activity guide.

Most programs begin Tuesday, Jan. 4.

Find recreation guides at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide, and search and sign up for courses and programs at www.rockvillemd.gov/ registration.

SHA Seeks Access to Properties as Part of I-495 and I-270 Managed Lanes Project

The Maryland State Highway Administration is contacting homeowners as associations in Rockville about noninvasive and invasive activities to support Phase 1 South and compensatory stormwater management work, which is part of the proposed I-495 and I-270 Managed Lanes Project.

As part of its ongoing investigations, SHA is requesting physical access to gain a better understanding of the properties, land use, environ-

mental conditions and cultural resources, and to continue to avoid and minimize potential impacts from the project.

Noninvasive access seeks to visually identify land features, streams, wetlands, noise barriers, utilities and other conditions. Invasive activities may include soil borings to determine the soil properties, and environmental surveys that dig test pits no more than 18 inches wide. Borings and test pits will be backfilled with soil or grout once the investi-

gations are complete.

SHA personnel requesting access to properties will carry official identification cards and are required to display them upon request. Typically, consultants are used by SHA to carry out these assessments.

The City of Rockville is offering the following guidance to property owners if they are approached by SHA personnel. (Note: This is not legal advice. Property owners are encouraged to retain legal

counsel for individual guidance or legal advice.):

- Ask about the purpose of the visit.
- Ask to see official identification.
- Request a business card from any visitor.
- Review any access agreement SHA may request you to sign and request a copy.
- Request copies of any reports that are a result of the visit.
- Ask: "What are the anticipated impacts to my property?"

For more information about the I-495 and I-270 Managed Lanes Project, visit OpLanesMD.com. ❖

Rockville to Salute Residents' Service at Veterans Day Ceremony

Rockville will honor veterans of our nation's armed forces with a ceremony on Veterans Day, Thursday, Nov. 11.

The ceremony is scheduled for 11 a.m.-noon at Veterans Park, at the intersection of MD 28 and Rockville Pike. Free parking will be available at Sandy Spring Bank, 611 Rockville Pike.

The ceremony, which is open to the public, will include a wreath laying and a military salute by the American Legion Post 86 Honor Guard. A recep-



tion will follow at American Legion Post 86, at 2013 Veirs Mill Road.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/veteransday, email special_events@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8620. ❖



NEW ART TO LIGHT UP SWIM CENTER FOYER ...
An art project will soon emphasize the "swim" in the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center at 355 Martins Lane and

highlight its newly renovated foyer.

New York-based artist Matthew Geller was selected by the Artist Nomination Committee of the Cultural Arts Commission to create the work. The \$100,000 commission to create the project is funded through the Art in Public Architecture Ordinance.

The fabrication and installation of the artwork is scheduled for winter of 2022.

Under plans submitted for the artwork, a projection will create a visual aquarium-like effect, as if the foyer is filled with rippling water, and giant life preservers in different colors will be integrated into the outside wall.

Find out more about Rockville's public art at www.rockvillemd.gov/AIPP. See more of Geller's sculptures at www.matthewgeller.com.

Tunes, Dreams and Art, at the Civic Center

Take in New York and the sounds of winter, ballet or a concert, or peruse some amazing local art, this month at the Rockville Civic Center.

"On the Town," presented by Rockville Musical Theatre. 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Nov. 5 and 6; 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7. Tickets: \$26; \$23, seniors 62 and older and students.

An energetic wartime musical about three sailors on 24-hours leave in New York City, featuring thrilling music by Leonard Bernstein, with lyrics and book by Betty Comden and Adolph Green. The show's celebrated score includes a number of musical theater standards, such as "New York, New York"

"Winter Dreams," presented by The Washington Balalaika Society 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20. Tickets: \$30; \$25 seniors and military; \$15 students; \$5 children 12 and younger.

A Russian folk orchestra of 60 musicians with balalaikas and domras will perform a musical program invoking the clear, soothing sounds of winter in Russia, Ukraine and Eastern Europe.

"For Love of Glenview" and "Five Featured Artists" will be on display at the Glenview Mansion Art

Gallery until Sunday, Nov. 21. The Five Featured Artists are Susan Dunnell, Suzanne Frisbie, Stephanie Gustavson, Norda Kittrie, Sue Moses. Meet the artists from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21.

The ADA accessible gallery, on the second floor of Glenview Mansion at 603 Edmonston Drive, is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and closed on official city holidays.

"Reimagined," presented by the Rockville Concert Band. 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21. No tickets required, but a \$5 donation is suggested.

A concert of pieces orchestrated for concert band from other ensembles, such as choir or orchestra, directed by Juan Gallastegui.

The Rockville Civic Ballet presents "The Nutcracker." 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 4 and 11; 2 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 5 and 12. Tickets: \$17; 60 and older and children 12 and younger, \$13.

Join Clara on her magical journey. Directed by Eleanor Simpson.

The theater is located at 603 Edmonston Drive. Buy tickets at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre, by calling 240-314-8690, or in person at the box office. For more information, email theatre@rockvillemd.gov. ❖

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Questions, Concerns or Ideas?

Reach out to Rockville City Manager Rob DiSpirito at rdspirito@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8102.



Get Into It

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FALL BACK AND CHECK YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS ... Daylight saving time comes to an end at 2 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, meaning clocks need to be set back an hour. This time of year is also a good reminder to check that your smoke alarms work — they're the best way of notifying you and your family of a fire.